

Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SAIGON 07908 150657Z

17

ACTION EA-14

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-04

RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-03 SS-20 NSC-07 H-03 AID-20 SSO-00

INRE-00 NSCE-00 USIE-00 DPW-01 IO-14 CU-04 DRC-01

/104 W

----- 038059

O 150557Z JUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY SAIGON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 5820

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SAGON 7908

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS PFOR VS

SUBJECT: WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE OF JUNE 13 ON TRAN NGOC CHAU

REFS: A) STATE 125932; B) SAIGON 7609

1. TRAN NGOC CHAU HAS BEEN RELEASED FROM PRISON. WE ARE TOLD ON GOOD AUTHORITY THAT HE IS NOW UNDERGOING CHIEU HOI-TYPE ORIENTATION.

2. WE ALSO HAVE THE FOLLOWING COMMENTS ON THE MCCOMBS STORY:

A. MCCOMBS' STATEMENT PARA 9, REF A, THAT THIEU'S MOTIVE IN ARRESTING CHAU WAS ANGER AT CHAU'S CONTACT WITH THE AMERICANS RATHER THAN CHAU'S TREASONABLE LIAISON WITH HIS BROTHER, IS MERELY HEARSAY OF WHICH THERE ALWAYS HAS BEEN A GREAT DEAL IN VIET-NAM. CHAU BROKE VIETNAMESE LAW, ADMITTED IT, AND HAS BEEN PUNISHED FOR IT. ANY OTHER MOTIVATION ATTRIBUTED BY MCCOMBS TO THIEU FOR THE GOVERNMENT'S ACTION AGAINST CHAU IS SPECULATION WITH NO BASIS IN FACT.

B. ALTHOUGH CHAU WAS SENTENCED TO TEN YEARS IN PRISON AT HARD LABOR AS MCCOMBS ASSERTS IN PARA 10, OUR INFORMATION IS THAT HE WAS KEPT IN CIVILIAN JAILS AND TREATED WITH COURTESY.

C. ALTHOUGH WE DO NOT KNOW MCCOMBS' SOURCES FOR HIS STORY, WE THINK IT FAIR TO SUGGEST THAT RADICAL OPPOSITIONISTS LIKE MRS.

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 02 SAIGON 07908 150657Z

NGO BA THANH WHO HAVE FORMED A "COMMITTEE TO RECEIVE THE

PRISONERS OF THE THIRD FORCE" MUST BE FRUSTRATED BY THEIR APPARENT INABILITY SO FAR TO CONTACT CHAU.

D. THIEU SPEECH HAS BEEN WIDELY MISREPORTED. (FOR FULL TEXT SEE REF B.) THE WORD "BETRAYAL" IN PARA 17, REF A, IS THE JOURNALIST'S WORD. THIEU DID NOT USE SUCH TERM NOR DOES THAT REPRESENT THE ESSENCE OF HIS SPEECH. NOR HIS DESCRIPTION OF THE RELATIONSHIP WITH THE US. THIS IS EVIDENT FROM READING THE SPEECH.

MARTIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PRESS COMMENTS, AMNESTY, PRESIDENT, POLITICAL PRISONERS, SPEECHES, JOURNALISTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 JUN 1974
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: izenbei0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1974SAIGON07908
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D740156-0066
From: SAIGON
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1974/newtext/t19740641/aaaabjen.tel
Line Count: 70
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: A) STATE 125932; B) SAIGON 7609
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: izenbei0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 13 AUG 2002
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <13-Aug-2002 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by boyleja>; APPROVED <19 FEB 2003 by izenbei0>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: WASHINGTON POST ARTICLE OF JUNE 13 ON TRAN NGOC CHAU
TAGS: PINS, PFOR, VS, (MCCOMBS), (TRAN NGOC CHAU), (NGUYEN VAN THIEU)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005